



*“Spring is nature’s way
of saying, ‘Let’s party!’”*

– Robin Williams, Actor and Comedian

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President’s Message

By Ben Pantoja

I’ve been here before. Ten years ago, I was President of Clifton Town Meeting. My term ended December 31, 2014. In January 2025, I was appointed to serve again as President.

This year, there will be several issues requiring community engagement. For each issue, CTM will need to present options, get community and business district feedback, and do our best to represent Clifton as we decide which options to support.

One issue will be the location of new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations. BRT buses will run through the “Reading Road Corridor” and the “Hamilton Avenue Corridor.” The latter includes three stops near us: one at Cincinnati State, another near the business district, and another by Good Samaritan Hospital. BRT buses will arrive every 10 minutes and will make very few stops. It will be a great travel alternative for Clifton residents and will bring people from around the city to our business district. The key issue is where these BRT stations should be built. How will they affect traffic or parking? CTM has started meeting with the Clifton Business Association (CBA) and Metro to explore options. When options have been better defined, there will be community engagement sessions.

Another issue requiring community engagement concerns how to calm traffic and increase pedestrian and bicycle safety on Clifton Avenue. The Department of Transportation is exploring several options, which have been outlined in past CTM meetings. As plans are further defined, more community engagement sessions will be held.

The last issue involves updating the Clifton Neighborhood Plan. The city references Neighborhood Plans when making decisions that impact the neighborhood. A considerable part of the Clifton plan will involve the potential creation of a Local Historic District. Having a Local Historic District would increase Clifton’s ability to preserve its architectural character and the historical integrity of the neighborhood.

Clifton Town Meeting will work on these issues while continuing our other responsibilities, such as beautification, housing, and zoning reviews, supporting neighborhood events, maintaining our website, and publishing The Chronicle. Please reach out to contactctm@cliftoncommunity.org if there are other topics you’d like CTM to explore. Also, try attending our monthly board meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm at the Clifton Recreation Center. ■



2025 CTM Leadership

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- Clifton Community LLC – Ben Pantoja, Barry Gee
- Clifton Plan – Gerald Checco
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- Clifton Community Fund – Barry Gee
- Golf Outing – John Whedon
- Invest in Neighborhoods – Barry Gee
- Neighborhoods of Uptown – Tim Noonan
- Parks – Patrick Etter

2025 CTM Town Halls

Please join us for exciting community announcements, lively discussion, and important neighborhood updates at our next Clifton Town Meeting. Dates, time, and location are posted below unless otherwise communicated.

First Monday of every month
7:00 pm
Clifton Recreation Center
320 McAlpin Avenue

From: The Editor

By Michael Moreland

Back in Chicago, I remember (on more than one occasion) getting a foot of snow, layering up, and meeting friends for a beer at a packed bar, where we all shared the same idea and indifference.

Now, not so much.

If our January snowstorm taught me anything, it’s that ten years in Cincinnati have spoiled me. Traversing sheets of ice, mounds of snow, and blistering winds felt like I was living at a base camp in Antarctica. To be fair, we recently bought some cool headlamps from L.L. Bean for night walks with Max, which I’m sure only indulged my subzero alternate reality.

The snow and ice did finally melt and recede, leaving behind mementos of petrified dog poop and a few forgotten gloves.

So, here I am, gazing out the window on a very February afternoon, longing for warmer, sunnier weather. And while we may not be there yet, as I write this, I’m confident things will be sprouting and springing all over town by the time this goes to print. I can’t wait.

Like the season, Clifton is changing, growing, and blooming. I hope to see this reflected in our newsletter this year with more stories from new voices. No matter how old you are, how long you’ve lived in Clifton, or whether you’re even sure you have something you’d like to share, I invite you to check out our Content Creation Guidelines at the link below. I hope you’ll consider submitting something in an issue soon. The deadline for our summer edition is April 24.

We’re also always looking for ways to improve the paper—to make it more relevant to our readers and representative of our community. If you have suggestions or questions, please email them to mycliftonchronicle@gmail.com.

To all of our seasoned writers who make every issue (including this one) worth reading, thank you for your time, talent, and continued contributions.

Since rebooting the paper last fall, I’m proud of the (now three) issues our small committee has produced. The Chronicle is a unique tradition that belongs to everyone. Here’s to another year of great storytelling.

Let’s party. ■



<https://tinyurl.com/y7r2ara7>

Contribute to The Chronicle Creators

To become a content contributor and learn more about article guidelines and submission, please reach out to our Managing Editor, Michael Moreland, at mycliftonchronicle@gmail.com.

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If you’re interested in advertising in The Clifton Chronicle, we’d love to have you! For more information, please email our Ad Manager, Jan Checco, at ctm.chronicle@gmail.com.



The Chronicle Is Online



Check out our latest newsletter and our archive of past issues by scanning the QR code or go to cliftoncommunity.org/clifton-town-meeting/clifton-chronicle.



Join The Clifton Chronicle Daily Facebook page for more news and updates!

Special Thanks

Production of *The Clifton Chronicle* is made possible thanks to our advertisers, grants from the City of Cincinnati’s Neighborhood Support Program, donations, and our committee of volunteers including Gerald Checco, Jan Checco, Linda Fatherree, and Leah Kottyan.

Connect

For announcements, community updates, and links to virtual Clifton Town Meetings, visit our website at cliftoncommunity.org

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To subscribe for a printed paper or to request your Chronicle by email only, please provide your postal mailing or email address(es) and full name(s) to ctm.chronicle@gmail.com

For non-residents or non-members of CTM, a \$20 donation covers publication and handling costs for one year.

Volunteer

Our community council depends on the support of volunteers like you! If you’d like to help with an event or serve on one of our committees, email us at ctmpresident@cliftoncommunity.org

Moving?

Please send your full name and updated mailing address to ctm.chronicle@gmail.com

You Matter. Become a Member of CTM

Clifton Town Meeting (CTM) is your community council, advocating on behalf of the Clifton community. We sponsor many initiatives and activities throughout the year. To continue this important work, we need your input. Membership is open to all neighborhood residents age 18 or older. Membership dues—our second largest means of support—cover 12 months and are tax deductible. CTM also accepts donations.

To join, go to cliftoncommunity.org/membership or scan the QR code. You can also fill out this form with a check or money order payable to: **Clifton Town Meeting, P.O. Box 20042, Cincinnati, OH 45220-0042.**



Name(s): _____	Membership Categories:	
Address: _____	___ Single (1 vote)	\$20
_____	___ Household (2 votes)	\$20
Phone(s): _____	___ Full-time college student (1 vote)	\$10
Email(s): _____	___ Business (1 vote)	\$40
Committees or activities of interest: _____	___ Senior citizen, 65+ (1 vote)	\$10
_____	___ Senior household, 65+ (2 votes)	\$14
_____	___ Life membership (2 votes)	\$180
_____	___ Donation of \$ _____	

DePaul Cristo Rey President & CEO Siobhan Taylor Recognized

By Margee Garbsch, Director of Communications & Marketing



Rey, which has a unique role in the local business community through its innovative Corporate Work Study Program (CWSP). The CWSP partners with 90 businesses and organizations where students work to earn part of their own education costs. Additionally, it was recognized that the school prepares future professionals and leaders through its college-preparatory academic program, which has seen every graduating senior accepted to college since the school opened in 2011.

President Taylor was also honored with the Business and Community Engagement Award at the 14th annual APNET (African Professionals Network) Symposium Gala in November. She also served as a keynote speaker at the symposium, APNET's premier annual event for networking and celebrating local leaders making a difference in the community.

DePaul Cristo Rey is a Catholic, college-preparatory high school with a mission to educate young people with the potential but limited financial means to go to college. This is accomplished through a dynamic academic program partnered with an innovative Corporate Work Study Program, not available at any other local high school. Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, DPCR is one of 40 high schools in the nationwide Cristo Rey Network® which serves 12,300 young people. ■

May I Take Your Order?

By Ann Baumgardner

With the winter temperatures falling into the negative numbers, New School Montessori (6–9) students turned a negative into a positive. One especially wintry day, when it was too cold to be outdoors, students were permitted to play games during their inside recess hour. However, instead of playing games, most of the class was excitedly working on their math assignment, “playing restaurant”!

Students perused the sample menu, carefully selecting what they wanted to order. Each item had a price listed. Once they totaled the cost of their meal, they walked to the cash register with their paper money to pay their bill. They then worked out the math with the cashier to determine what change they expected to get. And, of all things, not to forget the tip!

“Playing restaurant” was so much fun that students started making their own menus, deciding what to offer their patrons and what prices to charge. It's great when math is not only an important life skill but also just plain fun! ■



Druffel Gardens Seeks Green Volunteers with Green Thumbs

Beauty, Bounty, and Giving Back

By Sue McDonald on behalf of Dan Druffel

Dan is a Clifton resident and retired landscaper, and he's always on the lookout for Cincinnati area volunteers who love flowers, gardening, and flower arranging as much as they love giving back to their communities in unique and special ways—this is exactly what Druffel Gardens does.

Dan retired from his Morrow-based landscaping business in 2018 after several back surgeries. But he wasn't finished yet. He began looking for ways to pursue his green thumb passion while supporting his community.

That same year, through Hamilton County Landbank's Gardens and Greens program, he acquired a quarter of a block on Boone Street in Walnut Hills and started prepping the soil for flowers and vegetables. Why? His answer is as simple as it is powerful. “I believe the sharing of flowers brings joy and creates hope. It's a tough world we live in, and I think flowers make a big difference to a lot of people.”

Most of the garden produces flowers and greenery to fill several thousand vases from June through October. The remainder of the garden supplies tomatoes, strawberries, greens, beets, lettuce, eggplants, and other vegetables to Walnut Hills' La Soupe, a non-profit that rescues unused food from restaurants and groceries and turns it into luscious meals for individuals and families facing hunger and food insecurity.

Throughout the summer, volunteers from all over the Tri-State show up at the

garden every weekday morning to cut and arrange vases that are picked up and delivered to organizations and agencies around the Cincinnati area, including Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur nursing home, The Giving Voice Foundation and its Brains in Bloom program for individuals with Alzheimer's/dementia and their caregivers, Victorian at Riverside senior living community, and many others.

Once a month, 40–60 participants attend a Brains in Bloom event at Montgomery Community Church for an hour of camaraderie, greenery snipping, and flower arranging. In the winter months, Druffel Gardens supplies 15–20 buckets of fresh-cut flowers for each event with the help of Cincinnati Wholesale Florist.

Current volunteers are as close as Clifton and Walnut Hills and as far away as Liberty Township, Mason, Fort Thomas, Harrison, and Lawrenceburg.

In 2024, Druffel Gardens planted 5300 annuals and a variety of vegetables. The bounty produced 3800 vases of flowers and 1400 pounds of free produce.

To Dan, all of this bounty and beauty have a singular purpose: “to spread joy.”

“Seeing the smiles on people's faces when they create or receive a beautiful bouquet, or the joy on a person's face when they sit down to a delicious meal—that's what it's all about.”

For more information or to volunteer at Druffel Gardens, email druffelgardens18@gmail.com or visit the Druffel Gardens Facebook page. ■

Artist Archie Rand at Hebrew Union College

By Autumn Wheeler-Peterson



Archie Rand's *The Seventeen: Iron Flock* is a multi-canvas mural depicting seventeen biblical women that encourages conversation about the diverse roles women play in Jewish history and religion. Rand sees *Iron Flock* as “a grouping of Jewish heroes who are women, appearing in an underreported story that should have a painted monument sampling the collective.”

Produced for the sixth Jerusalem Biennale, themed “Iron Flock” (Tzon Barzel in Hebrew), in the Spring of 2024, Rand draws on this phrase from the Mishnah that declares the inalienable assets that women bring to a marriage. A more contemporary interpretation views women themselves as assets to the Jewish people, and it is this praise that inspired Rand's paintings.

Mining Midrash and Apocrypha, Rand fleshed out stories about lesser-known biblical figures to be viewed in concert with the readily recognizable. He presents the women in intriguing new ways amid a kaleidoscope of imagery derived from myriad sources. These include comics and pulp magazines, children's book illustrations, and classic American and Italian films, among other

unlikely visual precedents.

Instead of providing text to clarify the visual, he leaves it to the viewer to parse out the works' meanings, shifting from his previous body of work. Rand intends for viewers to be pulled into the loosely painted canvases on their own terms. The only textual allusion is a tiny label nearly hidden within each canvas, which nods to the subject matter and provides the title of each painting. Coated over with clear matte gel, those labels are placed a little off-center to, as Rand puts it, “add extra electricity to the works.”

Rand began by drawing the compositions and then activating them with color. Subtly suggesting Rembrandt's lighting effects with a yellow glaze, intermingled with a vivid palette inspired by the early 20th-century Fauve artists, Rand harnessed these stylistic contradictions in an act of improvisational freedom. Such freedom of expression is inherent to Judaism's spirit of tradition and change and connects the style and subject of *Iron Flock* to Rand's larger program of Jewish art.

Guest Curator Samantha Bas-kind, Distinguished Professor of Art History at Cleveland State

University, explains, “*Iron Flock* continues Rand's 40-year artistic enterprise exploring the Bible and Jewish texts in serialized paintings that are conceptually informed by 20th-century culture. His prodigious productivity interpreting biblical subjects in the context of the secularized 21st-century art world has established him as a figure admired for relentlessly and consistently creating interest in postmodern art in Jewish subject matter.”

Rand has had over 100 solo exhibitions and has been included in more than 200 group exhibitions. His work can be found in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Art Institute of Chicago, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, and Victoria and Albert Museum in London, among many others.

The exhibit will open at our Skirball Museum on Thursday, March 27, at 5:30 pm. The artist, Archie Rand, will be at the opening. This particular exhibit will be on view through July 31. Sundays 1 – 4 pm, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 11 am – 3 pm. For tour information, contact awheeler@huc.edu or **513-487-3231**. ■

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CLIFTON.

We've touched almost every doorknob in Clifton. Our commitment to our clients, deep understanding of the neighborhood, and in-the-know knowledge are the reasons why people call us first to buy or sell their home. We're Clifton's most trusted team, and we're here to make your next move with you.



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Party at the Library!

By Eric Davis, Librarian,
Clifton Branch



After a cold winter of snow and ice, this spring is truly a welcomed breath of fresh air! At the library, we are looking forward to some exciting events in late spring and into summer.

Can you believe the Clifton Library has been at its Parkview Manor location for ten years already? We're throwing a party for our 10th Anniversary and the building's 130th Birthday, and we invite you to celebrate with us! Stop in and say hello, take part in a scavenger hunt, grab some refreshments, and try your hand at a game of Badminton on our lovely front lawn. We hope to have some historical presentation(s) looking

back to the 1890s, the details of which are still being developed. The festivities will be held on Saturday, May 31.

And what a busy Saturday this will be! We are also kicking off our Summer Reading event on this day. Kids and teens can get signed up for the program and pick out a free book and an activity sheet for some fun and motivational ideas for learning and enrichment during the summer. We will have games and ice cream treats on our front lawn! We will also offer STEM and craft programs for kids and teens throughout the summer. This year's program, which runs from May 31 to July 31, is themed "Reading on the River," which ties into the October city-wide America's River Roots Festival along the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky riverfronts. We hope you'll join in on the fun!

And with this warmer weather, it's great to get outside and commune with nature. In partnership with the Osher Center for Integrative Health at the University of Cincinnati, we're excited to announce our new walking club! It turns out walking outside is good for you. Lucky for us, Burnet Woods is just across the street! All bodies and abilities are welcome—no registration is required. We'll meet at the Clifton Branch Library front porch every Monday and depart for our walk at 12:15 pm. This program is weather-permitting, and walks will last approximately 30 minutes.

Happy spring to all, and we look forward to seeing you at the library! ■



Growth at Annunciation

By Barbara McManus

A group of volunteers from Clifton's Annunciation Church recently treated the faculty and staff of Romero Academy at Annunciation to a holiday brunch as a show of appreciation for their hard work. The school opened two years ago with a student body of 80, and this year, that has grown to 140, PK through grade 6.

The plan is to add the junior high grades over the next two years. The volunteers were

greeted warmly and invited to attend the upcoming Christmas program. Great things are happening at this vibrant new addition to the Clifton educational community! ■

Volunteers pictured:

Front: Pam Rosfeld, Elizabeth Shaughnessy, Marian Mcswigan
Back: Barb McManus, Beth Brickler, Ginny Gubasta

Not pictured: Margie Matthews, Tina Ullrich, Karen Austin

Clifton Plan Update

By Gérald Checco, CTM Plan Chair
& Kyle Gibbs, City Planner

Remember life in the 1980s? It was landlines, limited cable TV, launch of MTV, bulky personal computers, and...the last Clifton Plan. Although 45 years old, the 1980 Clifton Plan ("The Plan") remains a vital document that shaped our neighborhood ever since. The Plan promoted the unique cultural character of Clifton, its historical legacy, its sense of being a "Village," its business district's fragile strength, its opposition to chain businesses, and its concerns about the increase of through traffic. Interestingly, these issues have been Clifton's concern since its annexation by the City of Cincinnati in 1896.

An update of The Plan is important not only because we are no longer in the 1980s but also because it allows Cliftonites to restate their positions and help form the future of our neighborhood. The Plan will identify our needs and wishes regarding Historic Preservation, Traffic, Development, Education, Arts & Culture, Business District, Quality of Life, Public Safety, Parks & Recreation, and many other aspects of our daily lives. It will help the community and the City share a vision of Clifton for the next 20 years.

In collaboration with CTM, the City Planning and Public Engagement Department restarted the update of The Plan, which was interrupted during COVID. A Google Form was created in the fall of 2024 to collect the names of people interested in participating in The Plan. A link to the form was published in The Chron-

icle, several times on the CTM mailing list (Mailchimp), and through social media. We are happy to share that about 40 individuals signed up to participate in creating The Plan. These individuals will form the steering committee to guide and inform the community.

Kyle Gibbs, City Planner, came to the CTM Board Meeting on January 6, 2025,

REVIEW & ADOPTION PHASE

This phase will share the plan with the various public groups and City entities for review and feedback. The plan requires support from the Steering Committee, Clifton Council, Planning Commission, & City Council



to introduce himself and discuss The Plan. The first meetings of the steering committee have already happened in January and February, and we are gearing up for a public meeting on March 22, 2025, at the Clifton Recreation Center. The rest of the schedule is outlined above, with the understanding that some dates may shift depending on circumstances.

Please scan the QR code below to share your thoughts and priorities. ■



Preserving Historic Clifton

By Steven Schuckman

Much of the charm of Clifton is due to its historic character and distinctive architecture. One way of preserving this character is through local designation of historic districts and historic buildings. This designation does not prevent change but instead manages that change through established guidelines. Historic guidelines generally pertain to exterior building changes and do not affect interiors. Demolition is subject to review and only permitted when no suitable alternative exists. New construction is also subject to design review, and guidelines describe how contemporary design can fit the general character of a district.

Historic designation is based on establishing criteria for what constitutes a historic district and which buildings fit these criteria. Guidelines are developed for each particular historic district, guiding any exterior changes such as the use of

materials, windows, doors, and architectural detailing. Guidelines may or may not include paint color or site improvements such as fences.

The local historic designation process involves neighborhood input, hearings, and action by the City's Historic Conservation Board, Planning Commission, and City Council. Once enacted, permits for exterior changes to buildings within that district are reviewed for conformance to the established guidelines. Even within established districts, some buildings may be 'non-contributing' to the district's character, and these buildings are not subject to the guidelines.

In the next few months, as the Clifton Neighborhood Plan is further developed and finalized, a CTM committee will work on the potential historic designation and protection of the neighborhood's legacy of historic and distinctive architecture for neighborhood consideration and discussion. ■

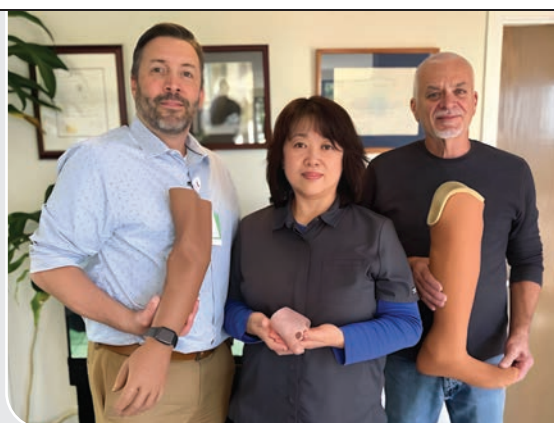


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Clifton Area Pantry

About Us

The Clifton Area Pantry was opened in Spring 2024 thanks to the work of dedicated Clifton parents and community leaders. The pantry is located on the campus of the Clifton Area Neighborhood School (CANS).

Who Do We Serve?

The CANS community is comprised of 350 students from Pre-K through Grade 6. We strive to provide basic food and hygiene items to anyone who needs them.

What's Next?

Thus far, we have maintained the pantry thanks to the generous support of individual donors within the Clifton community. Looking ahead, we strive to grow our community partnerships to ensure the pantry's long-term sustainability.

How Can You Help?

Contact us at cliftonareapantry@gmail.com, support our Amazon Wishlist, or donate to the CANS PTO (it's tax-deductible!). Please indicate that the funds are for the pantry.



Amazon Wishlist



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Cincinnati Parks Unofficial Mascot 2025

Small Business Owner Spotlight

Howell Avenue Pet Hospital



Howell Avenue Pet Hospital, located at 317 Howell Avenue in the heart of Clifton, is a cornerstone of our community, providing exceptional veterinary care with a personal touch. Our local veterinarians provide a full range of services focused on supporting animals to live their best, most healthy lives with their human families. Best of all, the veterinarians and staff really get to know the pets—offering personalized care and support for families and their fur babies.

The veterinarians, Dr. Terri McCarty, her nephew Dr. John McCarty, the newest addition, Dr. Ginny Johnson, and all the Howell Avenue Pet Hospital staff are renowned for their kindness and genuine care for animals. Their dedication is evident in stories that pop up on our Clifton Facebook pages every few weeks, where the hospital helps reunite lost pets with their owners and provides emergency medical services as needed.

Community members have expressed their trust and appreciation for the hospital. One Cliftonite shared, “Howell Avenue Pet Hospital is incredibly caring and intuitive if your pet feels unwell. I trust them and recommend them without reservation.”

The hospital's commitment to education and assistance in all aspects of animal care and ownership further solidifies its role as a trusted partner for pet owners in the Clifton area. By fostering a compassionate environment focused on the health of pets throughout our neighborhood and Cincinnati, Howell Avenue Pet Hospital has become an indispensable part of our community, ensuring the health and well-being of our beloved animal companions.

The Port and Uptown Consortium, Inc. Join Forces to Accelerate Development in Cincinnati's Uptown Neighborhoods

By Gracie Bujoll, Communications & Marketing Associate, The Port

At the end of 2024, after months of collaboration and analysis, The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority (The Port) and Uptown Consortium, Inc. (UCI) announced a new partnership aimed at accelerating community and economic development in Uptown, the region's second-largest economic engine and the center of research and innovation. The goal of this merger is to leverage the collective strengths and expertise of both organizations to catalyze transformative growth in one of the city's most dynamic and promising districts.

For more than 20 years, UCI has been leading Uptown's transformation, playing a critical role in its development as an innovative and inclusive urban hub. Through this partnership, UCI's experience will be paired with The Port's unique tools and capabilities to accelerate revitalization efforts and unlock the area's full potential.

“Uptown Consortium has played a vital role in shaping Uptown, and we are thrilled to assume management of this organization to attract further investment from JobsOhio, the state, and the private sector,” said Laura N. Brunner, president and CEO of The Port. “We will leverage our resources and expertise to accelerate growth, enhance economic opportunities, and foster long-term community impact,” Brunner continued.

Earlier this year, The Cincinnati Futures Commission identified Uptown's neighborhoods as a major growth engine in the region. The Uptown area of Cincinnati is a collection of five neighborhoods. It includes the Cincinnati Innovation District, a strategic effort designed to stimulate private investment, increase housing choices, and attract new jobs and

business opportunities.

As The Port's newest managed entity, both organizations will focus on unlocking Uptown's full development potential, with an emphasis on attracting new jobs and business opportunities. By leveraging UCI's deep understanding of the local landscape and The Port's capacity for large-scale development and financing, the collaboration aims to achieve sustainable economic growth and further solidify Uptown as a central hub of innovation and opportunity for the region.

Background on Uptown:

Uptown Cincinnati is a collection of five neighborhoods located immediately north of downtown/OTR, between Interstate I-71 and I-75, including Avondale, Clifton, Clifton Heights, University Heights, Fairview (CUF), Corryville, and Mt. Auburn. The area boasts a mix of educational, regulatory, and healthcare institutions, with a population that cuts across all social categories. Over 48,100 people reside in Uptown, and 1,063 businesses are located there. Anchor institutions and auxiliary businesses inside Uptown contribute \$10.7 billion in economic output annually and employ nearly 75,000 people with earnings of over \$5 billion.

About The Port:

The Port was formed in 2000 to stimulate the growth of the regional economy. Partnering with the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, The Port works to redevelop manufacturing and residential communities to build the foundation of job creation and livable, viable communities where residents can experience economic prosperity. ■



Clifton Market Celebrates 8 Years

By Tom Lohre

Starting last December, Clifton Market began working with a new major distributor who will supply 90% of the store. The new distributor is ten times larger, providing more selection and better pricing. The market will continue carrying IGA brands. Please bear with them as they make the transition.

The contract with their old distributor, one adopted from the co-op, expired. To meet the needs of international students at the University of Cincinnati, Clifton Market is stocking more international fruits and vegetables. Now, a whole aisle is dedicated to international groceries and produce. The aisle adjacent to the Beer Cave will stock beer and hard seltzer. The next aisle over will stock chips, cookies, and crackers.

Craig, the butcher in the meat department, has been with Clifton Market for three years. Clifton Market is looking to hire one more butcher to serve the evening shoppers. With the new distributor, they should be able to provide a better selection of fish and meat.

Clifton Market wants to stock what sells. They want communications to be open. Whatever the demand is, Clifton Market wants to supply it. As the community grocery store, that is the big difference between Clifton Market and the big stores.

Emailing singh@cliftonmarket.com is the best way to communicate your suggestions and requests with the store. Mr. Singh personally reads these emails. Ask a clerk if he is there, and they will page him. The store will still have the weekly flyer with improved advertising. It will take a while for the new distributor to take control of the website and online shopping.

Mr. Singh said, “The store is here for the long term. The store is going strong. Everyone should give us a try.” ■



Please enjoy this video interview with Mr. Singh introducing the new distributor.

events



**2nd Sunday Showtime:
Marionette Variety Show**
Sun, Mar 9 at 2:00 pm



**Madcap Puppets:
Pinocchio**
Sat, Mar 15 at 11 am & 1 pm



**Sunset Salons:
Bad@\$ Women of
Cincinnati History**
Tue, Mar 18 at 6:00 pm



**2nd Sunday Showtime:
Alice in the Hundred
Acre Wood**
Sun, Apr 13 at 2:00 pm

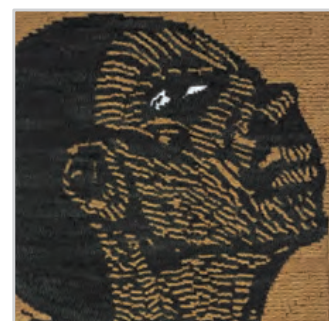


Highly Improvable
Sat, May 3 at 8:00 pm



**Sunset Salons:
Authors**
Tue, May 20 at 6:00 pm

exhibits



**Lift Every Voice
Group Exhibit**
Mar 7 – Apr 4



**The Poetry of
Transformation**
ChengLun Na
Apr 11 – May 9



Resilient Roots
Ximena Flores
Apr 11 – May 9

education

HOT ART SAMPLER

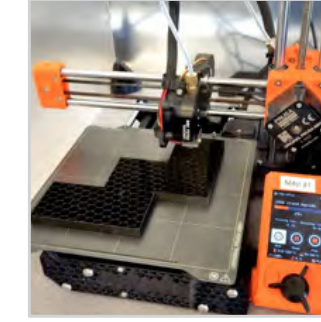
Each month, add some heat to your creative expression. No experience necessary!



Statement Jewelry
Mon, Mar 3 – 24 at 6:00 pm



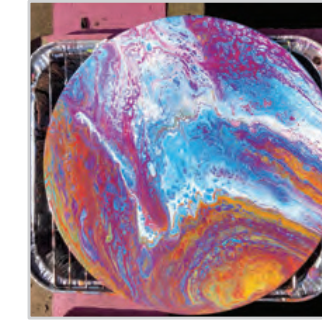
Raku
Mon, Apr 7 – 28 at 6:00 pm



3D Printing & Pens
Mon, May 5 – 26 at 6:00 pm

FAMILY WORKSHOP

Have fun as a family creating one-of-a-kind art pieces and lasting memories.



Out of This World Art
Sat, Mar 8 at 10:00 am



Foil Embossing
Sat, Apr 12 at 10:00 am



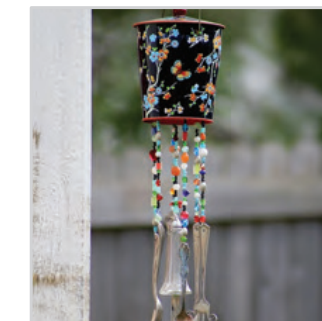
3D Printing Pens
Sat, May 10 at 10:00 am

CRAFTS & COCKTAILS

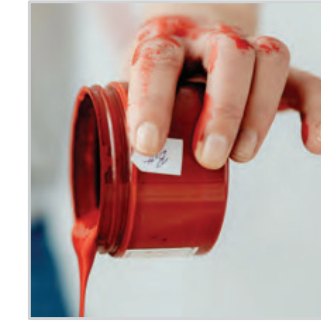
Create a unique piece of art while enjoying the evening's signature cocktail – or any other refreshment.



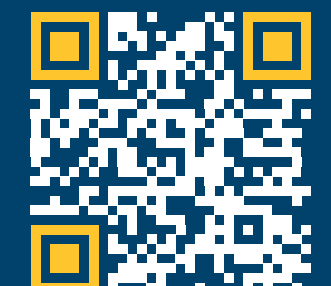
**Glass Etching
& Gimlets**
Fri, Mar 21 at 6:00 pm



**Wind Chimes
& Whiskey Sours**
Fri, Apr 18 at 6:00 pm



**Pour Painting
& Piña Coladas**
Fri, May 16 at 6:00 pm





Gaslight Gardening

By Leah Kottyan, Thrall Street

The gardens of Clifton are part of our neighborhood’s identity. We use our sidewalks; we enjoy each other; we love being outdoors together. In the Gaslight Gardening column, we celebrate the flora of Clifton. Common names for plants are used to make the articles accessible to everyone.

“Judge each day not by the harvest you reap but by the seed you plant” – Robert Louis Stevenson

I am not a “winter person”. I grew up in the deep South, where we put our tulip and daffodil bulbs in the fridge over winter so they would bloom when planted in February. When I first moved to Clifton, I found our winters to be dark and brown. The wet cold sank into my bones and left me shivering well after I was inside a heated home. Adding insult to injury, everyone kept telling me that I could not plant most anything in my garden until May.

Since moving to Cincinnati, I now use winter as a time of reflection and planning. As seed catalogs arrive, I eagerly pull up my notes on prior years’ gardens and start plans for the coming year. The plants in my garden can largely be split into annuals that last a single year and perennials that come back each year. My annual flowers provide color and summer-long excitement, cascading out of baskets and beds. While you can buy annual plants, it is fun (and economical) to start them from seed.

Despite the cold of February and March,

Margot Jacobson Gotoff

By Gérald Checco

Born in 1941 in Rochester, New York, Margot loved dolls, tea parties, and dressing up for Purim, the Jewish holiday commemorating the saving of the Jewish people from destruction by the Achaemenid Empire around the 4th century BCE. She did not realize then that her father, Israel Gaynor Jacobson, was living the Purim story in the 20th century, rescuing Jewish people in Europe after the Nazi’s onslaught during WWII. Israel Jacobson’s life is well documented in books and archives, notably at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and in a book by Tad Szulc, “The Secret Alliance” (1991). Margot and her family followed her father to many countries where his mission took him. Margot lived in 14 cities and seven countries.

When her family lived in Rio de Janeiro, Margot returned to the United States to pursue a degree in French Literature at the University of Michigan (BA in 1962). She realized sculpting was her true passion and enrolled at the École des Beaux-Arts in Geneva for two years of classical sculpture studies.

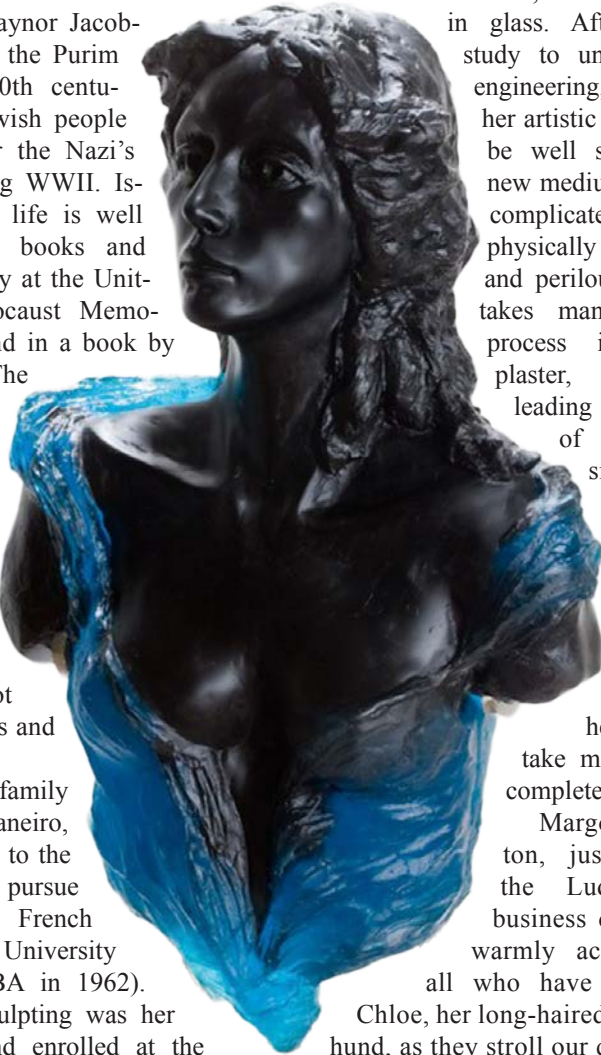
Margot returned to Ann Arbor to complete a master’s degree in Sculpture, inspired by August Rodin and Henry Moore. She met her husband-to-be, Harry Gotoff, a Harvard professor of Classics; they were married and soon after migrated. Their first baby, Leila, was born in Rome, and her son, Daniel, was born in Boston. Her itinerant childhood served her well, as her new young family moved from Rome to Boston, to Champagne, Illinois, back to Rome, and then to Cincinnati,

where Harry was offered a teaching position at the University of Cincinnati, where they settled.

She taught at the Art Academy of Cincinnati for eight years while continuing to create her own artworks in-studio. A student suggested that, instead of casting in bronze, she should cast in glass. After a detailed study to understand glass engineering, Margot knew her artistic prowess would be well served by this new medium. It is a long, complicated, unforgiving, physically challenging, and perilous process that takes many steps. The process involves clay, plaster, and rubber, leading to the creation of plaster and silica molds weighing up to 400 pounds and heating materials to temperatures of 1500 degrees F. All her sculptures take many months to complete.

Margot lives in Clifton, just steps from the Ludlow Avenue business district. She is warmly acquainted with all who have met her and Chloe, her long-haired blonde dachshund, as they stroll our quiet neighborhood sidewalks. Unfortunately, Chloe has passed away recently, and Harry is also now gone, but he is never far from mind. Right in character, he planned a surprise present for her – a commissioned classical portrait by Clifton artist John Volck, a perfect testimony of love from a Classics professor to his Classical figure sculptor wife. John Volck is well-known locally as the color consultant at ACE Hardware.

Margot has shown in galleries all over the world and has pieces in international private collections.■



Manifest Drawing Center

By Kevin Leigh-Manuelli, Program Coordinator



Artists Perspectives

Join us for an inspiring series that brings together a variety of talented local artists, each offering a rare glimpse into their creative process. Through live demonstrations, these artists will showcase their techniques, share unique insights into their craft, and provide an opportunity to explore the diverse approaches to making art. Attendees will not only witness the process firsthand but also have the chance to ask questions, engage in meaningful discussions, and gain valuable knowledge about a wide range of artistic media and methods. Whether you’re a dedicated artist seeking inspiration, an art enthusiast eager to deepen your understanding, or simply curious about how creative ideas come to life, this series offers a welcoming and enriching environment for everyone. Our goal is to inform, inspire, and connect people through the power of art and the shared experience of creation.

Miriam Barnov | Portrait Drawing | February 22
PJ Sturdevant | Bromoil Photography | April 19
Meg Lagodzki | Painting | May 17
Cecile Baird | Colored Pencil | June 21
Grace Ramsey | Painting | August 23

Visiting Artist Workshops

Light As Subject: Color and Material Reality in Painting
A 3-Day Intensive Workshop with Emil Robinson
Friday–Sunday, March 7–9

Recognize how light changes the world around you and learn how to translate this experience into an abstract language to build powerful representational paintings. This 3-day oil painting workshop led by Cincinnati-based artist Emil Robinson is designed to help you gain a greater appreciation for the ways that light and color can transform your paintings. The workshop will include a combination of art historical precedent, non-objective color exercises, and observational painting. Participants will be introduced to a curated group of artists from throughout history who will guide our weekend. These artists will be studied in several ways through lectures and painting. Color will be analyzed on its own terms through small painted exercises. These discoveries will culminate in a series of observational paintings from the live model, allowing you to attempt to integrate the insights gained throughout the workshop. Whether you’re an experienced artist or just beginning your journey in observational painting, this workshop will introduce you to a new perspective on painting and how and why Emil has constructed this philosophy for his own work.

Public Demonstration and Conversation with Emil Robinson
Friday, March 7, 6–10 pm

On Friday, March 7, Manifest Drawing Center will welcome artist Emil Robinson to our Central Parkway facility, where he will conduct a 3-hour public demonstration of his painting technique and process. Emil will discuss each phase of his painting process while completing a painting in front of the audience. All attendees are encouraged to ask questions throughout the development of the artwork. The demonstration is the introductory part of Emil’s workshop with Manifest Drawing Center. Tickets for this event are specifically for the general public who are not enrolled in the full workshop.

To register or learn more about these incredible programs, visit www.manifestdrawingcenter.org. ■



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Our Dear Old Firehouse

By Geoff Gelke, Clifton Historical Society

We pass it hundreds of times each year without a thought, but let me take you on a time travel so that you will know its story, ogle its beauty, and perhaps not pass so quickly.

Clifton's Town Hall, School (Resor Academy), and Firehouse were commemorated in 1870 at Clifton and McAlpin Streets as an all-in-one complex that began to wane as the new century approached. The fire department, a small one-horse building adjacent to the town hall, could barely serve the burgeoning population. Then, about 1903, Mr. Balsch, who had taken over residence in the McDonald mansion, complained bitterly that he would not send his son to the Academy across the street—it was too run down! This then spurred the building of the new Clifton School in 1906 and a new and adequate firehouse simultaneously.



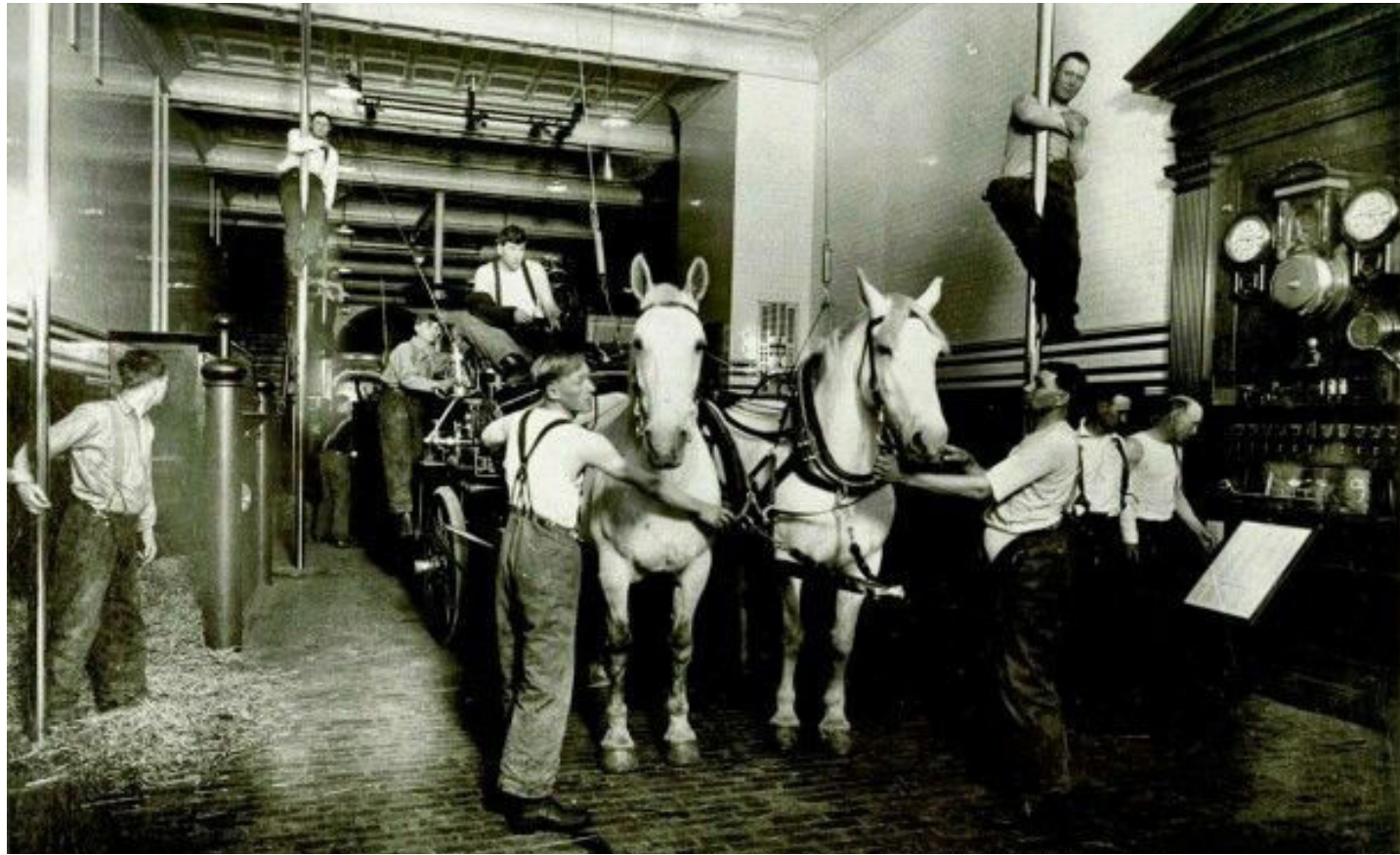
HARRY HAKE,
Architect.

The city commissioners elected local architect Harry Hake to design six new firehouses to completely update the fire service, one being ours, of course. Hake chose the Beaux Arts style of architecture he learned at The Art Academy, all the rage at this time, being a blend of Neo-Classi-

cal, Baroque, and Renaissance—a visual cornucopia to dazzle the eye, as well as to keep in vogue. It originated at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris during their extraordinary period, the Belle Epoque. Think of it as a desire to create a fresh new style, yet with the assurances of earlier styles.

Now, keep in mind that in 1906, trucks were not considered reliable, so we were still very much into horses for our power; thus, all of Harry Hakes firehouses were horse operations, and not until 1917 did the Cincinnati Fire Department mechanize into Ahrens Fox fire trucks (all built down on the 14th St. plant) when they were deemed reliable. Heck, even a block away, at 3307 Clifton Avenue, was our largest boarding stable AND garage, which was being built in 1906 to serve this transitional period. It still stands after much alteration.

Imagine now, five horses and thirteen



firemen stationed in our firehouse, the men living on the second floor, then sliding down a pole at the sound of the alarm bell to drop the harness from the ceiling on pulleys onto the horses trained to jump from their stalls into place, snap it all into place, flip open the beautiful original paneled doors, and away with bells ringing at full gallop! No wonder kids wanted to be firemen!

Upon return from a fire run, the wet canvas hoses were hoisted up into the drying tower for drying and then folded for subsequent runs. The drying tower can still be seen at the rear of the building. Hay and grain for the horses were hoisted via a hoist beam above those double doors on the second-floor rear so that hay could be dropped down to hungry horses.

Here are some rare photos of that time to help you understand what our firehouse interior would have looked like then. ■

Petey's Pet Stop • 311 Howell Avenue



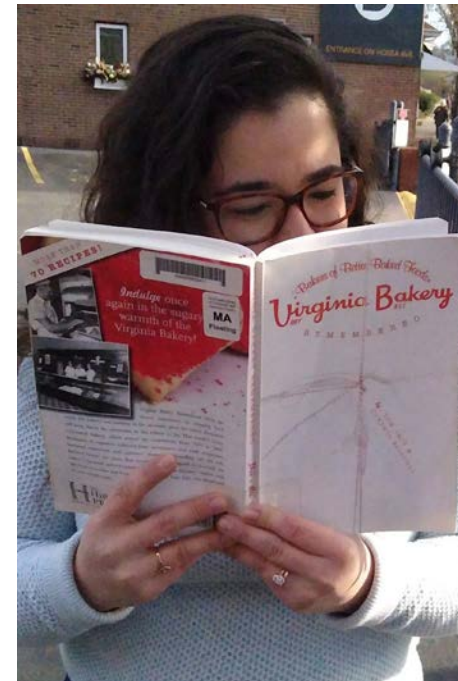
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Clifton's Enduring Places and Faces

By Dora Schield



That's Carly Thie, scanning a rare copy of her family's history as bakers par excellence. The Virginia Bakery was once located at 286 Ludlow from 1927–2005. When Carly's father co-authored the book with Cynthia Beischel, he included many recipes made famous way beyond the border of Cincinnati. The aroma of baked goods still lingers in the memories of those who shopped there.

Meeting Carly got me thinking of the longevity of other businesses on Ludlow—those buildings that house over, then over again, new merchants plying their wares. For example, when I moved here in 2005, a bookstore gave way to several other trades before Clifton Natural Foods finally settled in; The Upside Brew used to be Lydia's, which came after an exotic clothing and accessories shop; Gaslight Bar & Grill was once our beloved library (1950s) before it moved up the street to a more fashionable setting, taking their likable staff with them. Barbershops have existed on Ludlow since the 1950s, with Clifton Barber's cutting

away in one such former space.

With multi-decade longevity, we give high praise to Esquire Theatre (1911) and Graeter's (1932). Our dedicated USPS was an early occupant of the spot occupied by Alive and Well, preceded by Postmark, Harvest, La Poste, and Tinks. Please let me know if you can tell me the date and location of Clifton's first post office (no prize will be awarded). Adrian Durban Florists was purchased from a flower shop called Adrian in the 1950s. Catherine, who had been employed there for 43 years, showed me a cast iron safe from an earlier pharmacy. It dominates a closet like a proud monument that dared to be removed.

Some 1960s trades retain their original locations but have been taken over by new owners. Ludlow Wines (1963) comes to mind. There's some debate as to when Skyline Chili magically appeared (1966?), so I'm naming the Proud Rooster (1960) as the longest-running eatery on Ludlow. Before Bob Doll took ownership, it was the Hitching Post. And no contest, Bob has served up more eggs and deep-fried chicken than the current population of Ohio.

Essential services (food/pharmacy/banks) are the foundation of any community, so we're fortunate since other city areas lack these essentials. We didn't know how vital a hardware store could be until Bryan opened Ace 15 years ago. Our shopping district appeals to outsiders, locals, and the college crowd, thanks to all the eateries, groomers, gift shops, and coffee houses that draw them in. A number of these stores have been around since the 1980s. Sadly, space does not allow me to name them all, but we celebrate those businesses not mentioned herein. My dad always said that the best way to maintain a healthy neighborhood is to support its local merchants. I agree and am grateful for my good judgment in settling in Clifton. It's not just my community; it's my home. ■

LUDLOW GARAGE OH.

WHERE LIVE MUSIC COMES TO PLAY

- Cocktails
- Brunch
- Dinner
- & of course
Legendary
Concerts

Best Brunch in Clifton!



A Walk to Camp Washington

By Steven Schuckman

This walk takes you to Camp Washington, the former home of the most powerful radio station in the country, a collection of neon signs, George Washington in a dress and an image of the cow that briefly lived in Mt. Storm Park.

Starting in the business district, walk down Ludlow, turning left on Clifton Hills Drive. Walk up over the hill to Central Parkway. Central Parkway is the home of Manifest Gallery in a former funeral home. Turn left and walk down the Parkway to Monmouth Street. Central Parkway was built on the Ohio and Erie Canal. Started in 1825, this section of the canal connected Cincinnati to Dayton and was completed in 1829. The canal eventually connected Lake Erie at Toledo to the Ohio River. The canal bed was later used for the never completed subway system. Central Parkway was built over it in the 1920s (as envisioned in the 1907 Kessler Park Plan).

Crossing I-75 on Monmouth, turn right on Colerain one block to Arlington. At the end of Arlington is the former home of the Crosley Corporation. Built in 1929, the building contained the radio studios and transmitter for WLW, at one time the most powerful radio station in the country. Crosley manufactured refrigerators, cars, and

radios. Powell Crosley was once one of the wealthiest men in the country. Retrace your steps to Colerain, heading south one block to Monmouth. Turn right. On Monmouth is the American Sign Museum, with examples of rescued signs outside the building.

Returning to Colerain, pass Valley View Park and its "Doughboy" statue of a WWI soldier. The massive jail known as the Workhouse formerly sat at the park's east edge. Walking further down Colerain, you'll come to Hopple Street. Look back at the mural on a building adjacent to the landmark Camp Washington Chili. The mural depicts a "campy" George Washington in a dress and the famous cow that escaped nearby slaughterhouses, hiding out in Mt. Storm Park for 11 days.

Cross Hopple continuing down Colerain. Turn left at Marshall, walking uphill under I-75. Here, adjacent to the highway, is the 1902 Sacred Heart Church. Stay on Marshall, crossing Central Parkway and McMicken, walking up the long hill to Riddle. Turn right on Riddle to Clifton Avenue and then downhill to Ludlow.

Walk down Clifton Avenue, passing Hebrew Union College and finally UDF, formerly the Sohio gas station. The name "Sohio" is still visible at the top of the south side of the building. ■

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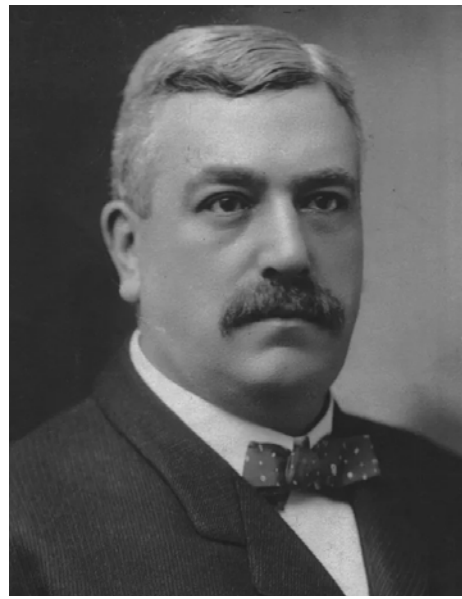
BILL'S 5 RULES FOR SUCCESS

Parkview Manor

Your Regal Public Library

Part 1 of 4 Stories By Jan Brown Checco

Clifton's branch of Hamilton County Library is atypical, obvious when you arrive at 3400 Brookline Avenue. Majestic and refined, this 1894 Italianate Renaissance Revival mansion – “Parkview” – was built for George Barnsdale Cox (1853–1916), a



leading Hamilton County political “boss” at the turn of the 20th century. Samuel Hannaford had just finished Music Hall and City Hall when he accepted the commission for which he chose sandstone, slate, and stone as the principal materials. His design included a 3 ½-story circular turret and a sweeping front porch. The 10,000-square-foot house was designed near the end of Hannaford's career, punctuating a list of more than 300 buildings realized in the Gilded Age for the rich and famous.

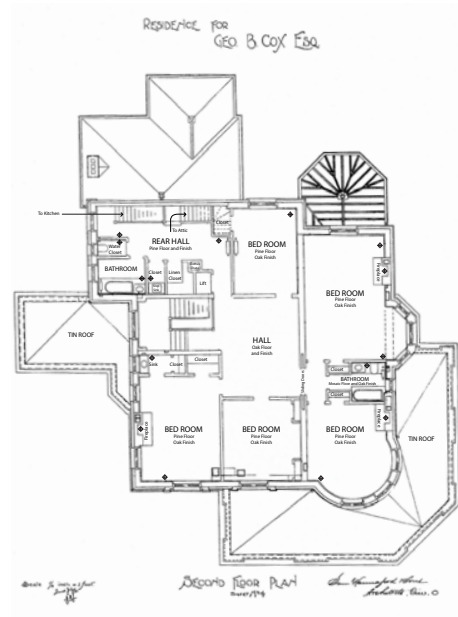
The first and second-floor plans drawn up by Hannaford and Sons reveal how people lived in Victorian mansions, with public, private, and service activities carefully delineated. Family and guests slept on the second floor, with one small second-floor bedroom that could accommodate one caregiver. The voluminous attic

could lodge other servants whose activity was contained to the back house in the kitchen, den, attic, and cellar. A discrete, closet-sized lift was located close to the central staircase should someone require assistance. We can imagine the movements of George and Caroline Shill Cox around their palatial home while experiencing the changes made for a library today.

Cox and his wife lived in a 3-story brick Italianate home at 115 W. Ninth Street before moving into Parkview Manor in 1895 when Clifton's annexation to Cincinnati was finagled in Columbus by Cox, an unpopular change for most Cliftonites. They entertained lavishly in their mansion, which quickly became a public forum. Institutional corruption was the norm, and neighbors reportedly shunned them socially.

Known for never writing anything down, Cox penned an exceptional statement about his daily schedule during the 1911 perjury trial: he rose and left his mansion by 7:30 am, worked at his office above the Mecca Café on Walnut Street, dined through the day downtown, returning home around 8 pm. “I get my pleasure in my home life, for, while I have no children, I have a loving and devoted wife,” he wrote. He cautioned young men about political aspirations: “In the first place, there is no money in it for the honest man, and in the second place, there is only abuse, whether you are successful or unsuccessful. In fact, the more successful you are, the more abuse will be heaped on you. Politics as a profession doesn't pay.” He stated that his millions came from real estate investments and ownership of the World Film Corporation, the largest motion picture chain in the world. He was also part owner of the Cincinnati Reds starting in 1902. ■

Appreciation goes to former Clifton Branch Manager Jill Beitz, who worked with Julia Gardiner and fellow staff members for a year on the de-speckled plans for legibility.



RESIDENCE OF HON. RICHARD SMITH.

Digging Dixmyth Avenue

By Bonnie Holliday Speeg

Traveling on Dixmyth Avenue, have you wondered about that odd name and spelling? In 1869, Camp Washington was annexed to Cincinnati. The road from Clifton down to Camp Washington was unnamed. Now, it needed one.

Cincinnati City Council chose a name for the connecting street by 1870. The name was for a revered Cincinnati living on Whitfield Avenue; it would give a wink and a nod to his legacy. That Cincinnati was one of the country's most prominent journalists, the editor and president of the “fiery and untamed” Cincinnati Commercial Gazette. Sometimes called the unwelcome moniker of ‘Deacon,’ the editor occasionally vented anti-papal diatribes in the paper. The road would be named after editor and journalist Richard (Dick) Smith.



Richard Smith arrived in Cincinnati with his widowed mother in 1841 from Wexford, Ireland. By age 27, he was a telegraph operator, living with his wife Mary, their two children, and his mother. This telegraph company was the newly organized Associated Press. Smith was the first man in Ohio to transmit a presidential message over the wires. An unassuming man standing under

five feet five inches, he twirled his spectacles in his hand when answering his colleague's questions. Smith worked his way up to Cincinnati Commercial Gazette Editor in 1854. Widely known among editors, Smith possessed a proactive interest in public affairs and forthright journalism.

As a strong writer, an 1860 newspaper article called Smith “A highly respected man in his devotion to clean journalism.” He was a member of the Immanuel Presbyterian Church but never a deacon therein. The sobriquet ‘Deacon Smith’ came from a joke by a rival journalist and then spread across the country. In a Detroit interview, Smith said, “I’m no deacon,” with startling abruptness. “I’m simply Richard Smith of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette! The ‘deacon’ is yours by right of common acceptance. It is not mine, by any right,” he replied. “There is a degree of flippancy about the title which has never pleased me.”

Smith supported the heated 1870 proposal for a bridge from Cincinnati to Newport, KY (Purple People Bridge) and traveled to Washington, D.C., with Senator Eggleston to present it before the Board of Commissions. Readers found the name ‘Dixmyth’ first printed in the Cincinnati Enquirer as Smith accompanied the Senator about all that bridge-boasting. The bridge opened on April 1st, 1872.

Richard and Mary Smith had seven children. Their son Richard Jr. became an Indianapolis newspaper editor. Two daughters became librarians, living in Terrace Park. The Smith's home stands at 3345 Whitfield Avenue. Richard Smith died in 1898 on 257 Loraine Avenue, and his wife Mary died four years later at then 3443 Evans Place (Evanswood). The Smiths are buried in Spring Grove Cemetery. Richard Smith never opposed the street named after him with the encoded flair. A man of words, Dixmyth sounded fine to him, and the name Dick Smith remains encrypted just beneath the street signs when you drive on Dixmyth Avenue. ■

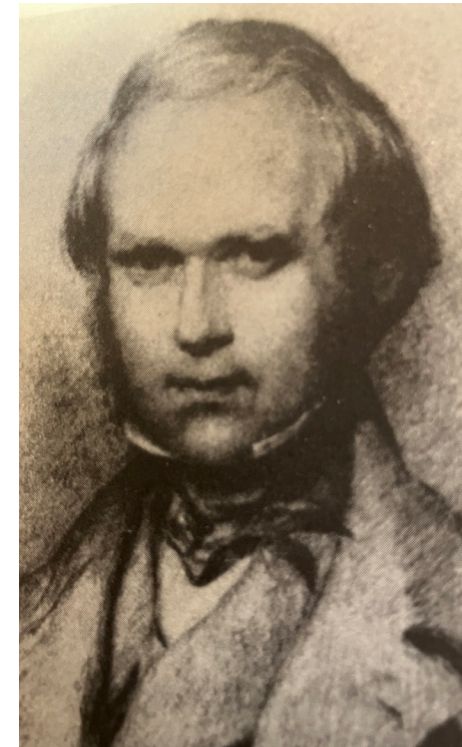
When a Darwinist Visited Clifton in April 1887

By Ronald W. Millard

The proposition of evolution and the origin of species by natural selection, first proposed in an 1858 letter from Alfred Russel Wallace to Charles Darwin, caused considerable stirrings at the Linnean Society in London, England. It seems these two natural scientists independently reached the same theory on the origin of species and, thereby, on the evolution of living things in general.

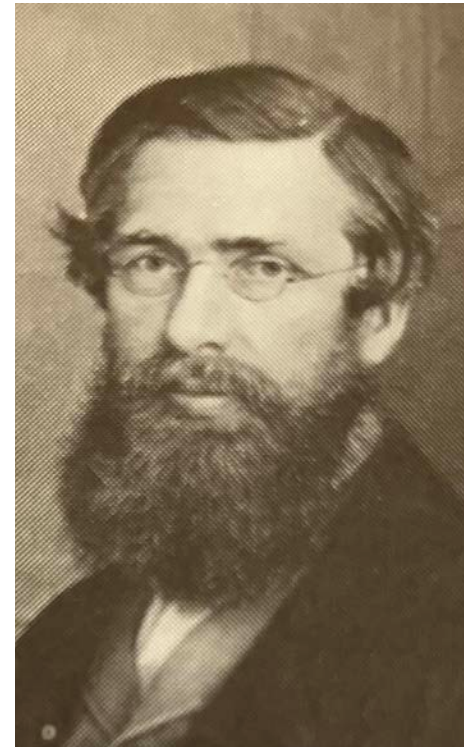
Darwin is perhaps best known for his experiences as a 22-year-old biologist aboard the HMS Beagle on its five years of discovery while circumnavigating the globe. Wallace, more than a decade younger than Darwin, at age 32, spent eight years observing various plant and animal species in the virtual obscurity of the Malay Archipelago.

Wallace's letter to Darwin took six months to deliver by ship. He proposed an evolutionary theory of natural selection. This hit Darwin “like a thunderbolt from a cloudless sky” and caused Darwin to recruit colleagues to petition the Society to credit him (age 53, 1809–1882), not Wallace (age 39, 1823–1913), with the rightful claim to the theory that would shake the world. These events spurred Darwin's “On the Origin of Species” publication in 1859.



Charles G. Darwin (ca. 1840)

Twenty-five years later, Wallace, at age 64, conducted his North American Lecture Tour. He visited science and philosophy luminaries of the day, as well as prestigious universities, major public buildings, museums, seats of government, politi-



Alfred Russel Wallace (ca. 1860)

cians, and presidents. He delivered public lectures on “Darwinism” in Boston, New York, Washington, and numerous other cities, including Cincinnati, during his 12-day visit before he continued westward by train to San Francisco.

Wallace's 1886–1887 travel diary documents his arrival in Cincinnati on the St. Louis Express train from Washington, D.C., at 6 pm on Wednesday, April 13, 1887. As a botanist trained in the Linnean naming system, Wallace peppers his journal with both common and Latin names of many plant species he observed during his visit to Cincinnati and several of its neighborhoods.

The day after arrival, he was escorted for a drive around the beautiful suburb of Clifton—fine houses with spacious grounds, grass, wildflowers, trees, and shrubs. Wallace shared his observations and opinions of Cincinnati and Clifton with his family back in England. He wrote to his daughter Violet on April 17, 1887, and a few days later to his wife Annie, “...all around are hills covered with pretty villas each with grass all around them planted with trees and shrubs and no fences at all either between the houses or the roads, which looks quite charming and rural just like a lot of nice houses in an extensive park. ... It saves the expense of fences and looks very nice. ...and people here greatly admire our common dandelion as a beautiful flower! ... The country round here is a very rich locality for birds, insects, fossils, and land shells, all three or four times as numerous as in England, with much finer and more varied species.” ■



The Clifton Historical Society presents The Allure of Stained Glass

Learn about stained glass from creation to restoration from expert John Ruzsa and enjoy exquisite images of our great windows in Clifton by photographer Robert Flischel.

April 5, 9:30 am - 1 pm • Third Floor Auditorium
Lunch: Dewey's Pizza served with beverages



May 4 - Clifton Historical Spring Grove Tour
of Notable Gravesites and Spring Blooms • 1 pm and 3 pm

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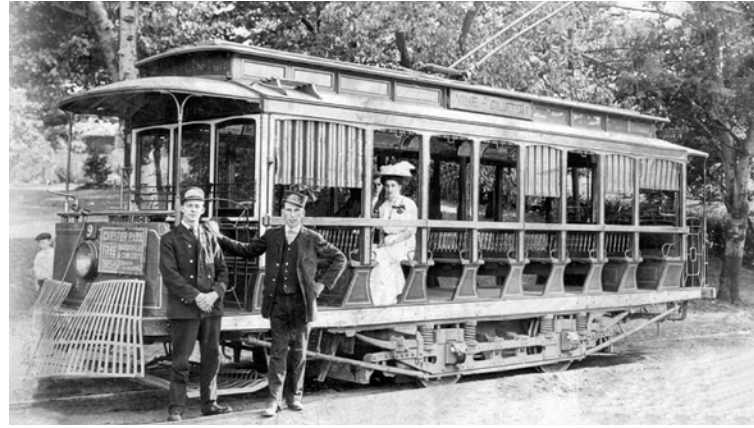
Spring & Fall Seasons

Fielding teams
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SAY East League

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The Importance of Local History

By *Gérald Checco*

A sense of history and culture strikes visitors and newcomers to Clifton. Many residents have left an indelible mark on our region's history. Civic leaders, artists, and scholars have lived comfortably in a neighborhood that values the same things they value. Additionally, known for having the highest percentage of residents who are not American-born, Clifton is a unique refuge of cultural diversity.

To celebrate this legacy, the Clifton Historical Society (CHS) was formed in 2024 to celebrate and preserve the rich heritage of Clifton. Some recent initiatives include:

- Lecture series
- Artifact preservation
 - Millstones at the Clifton Plaza, identifying the importance of mills in the development of Clifton
 - An equestrian display at Diggs Plaza (scheduled Spring 2025), honoring the former stables at the corner of Ludlow and Clifton
- Publication of historical articles in the Chronicle
 - Since 2019, 50 historical articles by 13 authors
- Clifton-inspired guided tours in Spring Grove Cemetery
- Interpretive panels on signifi-

cant buildings

- Preservation of oral and written history at the Clifton Branch Library

The last initiative is very exciting. The Clifton Branch of the Library has partnered with CHS to preserve our history. Documents may include written testimonies, taped (audio and or video) stories, photography, and other documents that can be digitized. Some of these documents may include a variety of topics from the personal ("This was my life in Clifton") to the public ("The creation of Diggs Plaza"). As part of the Clifton Digital Library, some of these stories could be published in the Clifton Chronicle or on the Clifton Chronicle Daily Facebook page.

As we engage in creating the Clifton Plan, it is essential to know and preserve our local history. Planning for the future requires us to understand the past and the present. Let's strive to understand and connect with the place where we live, understanding what makes Clifton, Clifton. You can help form Clifton's Digital Library by contacting us at cliftonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. ■

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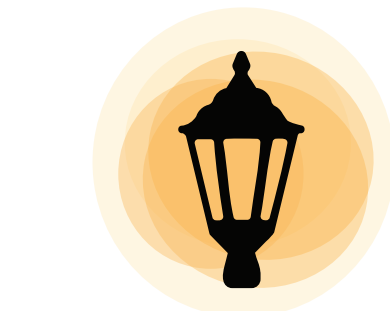
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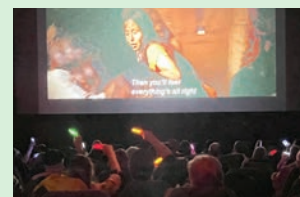
3416 Clifton Ave, 45220

(513) 961-2998

Facebook.com/CliftonUMC

CliftonUMC.com

Easter Schedule



Save the Date: Palm Sunday 4/13
Jesus Christ Superstar Sing-Along

Easter Services (Sunday April 20)



7:15 AM
Sunrise Service @ Mt. Storm Park

9:15 AM and 11 AM
Easter Worship @ Clifton UMC
Easter Egg Hunt Between Services

Tom on the Street

Some snippets from your favorite business district thanks to Tom Lohre!

- 272 Bakery is selling out early!
- Paolo Jeweler is 30 years old!
- J. Gumbo's owner, Kim, says, "We're celebrating 13 years!"
- Skyline now has hot honey sauce! The hot dog cook said, "We have amazing people here."
- "Baladi has more groceries," Jamal said, "The Syrian overthrow was good. Some want to go back, most want to stay here. It's been thousands of years."
- Clifton Nails says all the clients with long nails are models.
- Makin Heads Turn is doing great with new artwork and styles.
- Petey's Pet Stop's owner, Jackie, says, "Charlie Bear Treats are the best!"
- Howell Avenue Pet Hospital's cat got adopted!
- Adrian Durban Florist hires challenged workers and likes to reward people for doing a good job.
- Arlin's has karaoke on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Music starts back in late spring on Saturdays.
- Biagio says, "I love to be here. It doesn't feel like work!"
- Born To Lose Tattoo Parlor has two new inkers.
- Semesters has a new button person with all the seasonal and timely buttons.
- Clifton Market is going strong. Everyone should give it a try.
- Auntie Apples has the best Hong Kong Cantonese.
- Maya expects excellent colors for their new work!
- Sitwell's has live bands and large crowds. The Faux Frenchmen perform every month.
- Pangaea Trading Company has a ton of stuff coming in, including the new spring collection.
- Sarah, a server at Graeter's, says, "We have a new flavor, Chocolate Coconut Almond Chip!"
- Toko Baru's big sellers are the Jellycat soft bags and animals.
- The Upside has new artwork and seasonal drinks, including Campfire Latte, Lucky Irishman, King Cake, and Rose Mocha.
- New window treatments by Kourtney Dean of Creatively Dun are looking good!
- Lentz's new store display will be antique Pyrex. Check out the latest from James White, painter of the Arlin's murals.
- A customer at Whole Bowl says, "The people that work here are responsible and care."
- At Ludlow Garage having lunch, Bryan Valerius tells the story of meeting Ricky Skaggs in front of his hardware store. Ricky said, "I can get you tickets!"
- Feel It Records has live shows coming up in the spring.



A Call to Sidewalk Chalk Master Artists!

CliftonFest is an annual cultural arts celebration held in our Ludlow Avenue business district. For its return on September 12-13, 2025, we're seeking 35 talented sidewalk chalk artists to transform our sidewalks into a vibrant public art gallery. Participating artists are matched with business owners and sponsors. Training will be offered at Clifton Plaza on Saturday, September 6, to share the technical process that keeps chalk imagery fresh for months.

- Application Deadline: April 15, 2025 at 5 pm
 - Notification Date: May 15, 2025
 - Work Begins: Friday, September 12, 2025
 - Completion: Saturday, September 13, 2025 (by the end of the festival)
 - Compensation: \$250 per 4'x6' completed chalk image, paid to participating artists after completion
- Please use this link to access the application and share it with other artists you think may be interested.
<https://cliftonculturalarts.org/events/cliftonfest/call-to-chalk-artists/>

Burnet Woods Book

Do you know how Cincinnati cured its caterpillar plague? Are you familiar with all the names of trees in Burnet Woods? Did you always wonder why there seems to be water dripping from certain paved streets? Learn the answers to these and many other mysteries in *A Short History of Burnet Woods (with fun facts!)*.

Lisa Haglund and Anne Skove have assembled centuries of history into one handy illustrated book. Dig into the expansion of the University of Cincinnati, learn who the heck Dick Smith was, and find out what Hebrew Union College has to do with the Wolff Planetarium!

Get your copy at Flamingo Haven or contact Anne Skove at 513-846-6120.



MEMORIAL DAY CLIFTON 2025

Meet Your Neighbors at the Parade and Picnic on Monday, May 26!

10:30 AM Congregate at McAlpin and Middleton to participate in the parade! Decorated bikes, pets, and humans are essential for more fun along the way!

11:00 AM The parade walks north on Middleton from McAlpin, turns left on Lafayette, heading to Mt. Storm Park.

12:00 PM Community picnic at Mt. Storm Park with grilling out for lunch.

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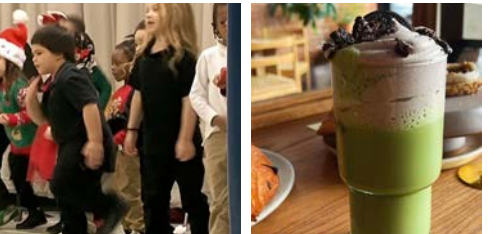
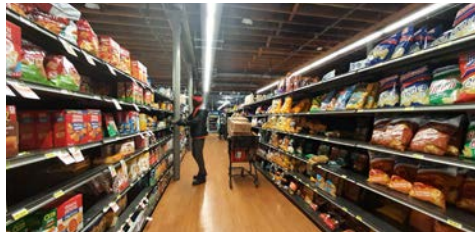
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